

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's
EXCITER

**RARS EVENTS:**

- The RARS General Membership meeting is the 1st Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night @ 8 PM on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net is Saturdays @ 8:30 PM or following the RARS net.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

RARS Website Update

**Article by Hank Montgomery K4HM,
RARS Webmaster**

Last year RARS tested the idea of having individual "Profiles" for each member. The profile starts with the information that is shown on the club roster and adds additional information from the membership application and renewal forms. Some good ideas came out of the test last year and have now been incorporated into the final version of the Member Profiles Database. If you have been to the website lately you may have noticed an announcement that the Member Profiles are now online and that a new Members Only section of the website was being developed.

(Insert trumpet roll here.)

The New Members Only pages are now available. The first thing you will notice on the page is a link that says Membership Roster. Clicking that link (or any other link on the Members Only page) will check to see if you are currently "Logged In. You will only be able to access features on the Members Only page if you are Logged In.

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Next RARS Meeting: November 2

7:30 PM:VE Test Session, RARS Officer Elections,
and "The Invention of the Telegraph," a Program
by Jeff Wittich AC4ZO.

RARS OFFICERS:

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The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (www.rars.org).



The Exciter

The *Exciter* is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The *Exciter* welcome articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor.

The views expressed in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces.

The submission deadline for each month's *Exciter* is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

Editor: Courtney Enzor KI4HOS (editor@rars.org)

RARS General Meeting

Date: First Tuesday of each month

Location: First Alliance Church
4400 Buffaloe Road
Raleigh, NC

Time: People begin arriving at 7 PM. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 PM.

RARS Monthly Dinner

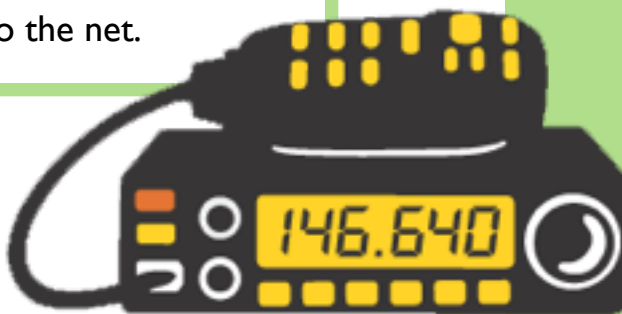
Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. It's open to everyone: RARS members, non-members, friends, and family – feel free to bring your little ones! Dinner begins at 6:30 pm.

Listen to the nightly RARS net and check www.rars.org for details on the next dinner's location.

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

145.130 (82.5 PL), 146.640, & 444.525 (82.5 PL)

Join us for the nightly RARS net @ 8 PM on the 146.640. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS member to the net.



VE TESTING

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August, and November RARS meetings; the RARSFest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARSFest in November; and following RARS license classes.

Please bring a photo ID, your current license, a copy of your current license, your \$15 exam fee, and any CSCEs you have for credit. Visit www.rars.org for more information.

November Birthdays

Joe	WA4GIR	11/2
Carroll	KD4JH	11/7
Jeff	AC4ZO	11/8
Ashby	W5PGX	11/11
Rich	N4ENL	11/11
Jennifer	KG4IYQ	11/14
Joshua	KF4ZXK	11/15
Glenn	WA4LHE	11/16
Eric	N4GOP	11/18
Rolf	K8SL	11/19
Mark	WD4KSE	11/21
Donald	KJ4DNI	11/21
Rodney	AK4CH	11/23
Scott	KI4OCF	11/24
Terri	N4ZUD	11/25
Doug	N3LTV	11/26
Ray	KC4JWK	11/26
John	WB8QJN	11/27

Upcoming Hamfests

11/6- Stone Mountain Hamfest
11/7 Lawrenceville, Georgia
<http://www.stonemountainhamfest.com/>

11/13 North Central Texas Emergency
Communicators' Ham-festival
Azle, Texas
<http://www.wc5c.org/WC5CClub/NCTECH/tabid/152/Default.aspx>

11/21 JARSFEST
Benson, NC
<http://www.jars.net/JARSFEST.htm>

12/4- Tampa Bay Hamfest
12/5 Palmetto, FL
<http://fgcarc.org/>

September 2010

RARS Net Reports

Checkins: 512
Traffic: 34/24
Minutes: 595
Sessions: 30

Special Interest Nets:
Checkins: 110
Minutes: 420
Sessions: 8

New RARS Members

Bill Mars	AK4BL
Dale Jones	WA4JCK
Mike Clark	KF4YSX
Sarah Mars	KJ4WZD
Marc Sullivan	W4MPS

RARS Website Update (continued from page 1)

I guess we need to take a short detour here and explain the Log In process. The Log In screen requires your User ID. This is your call-sign if you are licensed – otherwise contact the treasurer or webmaster to find out what User-ID to use. You will also need your unique password. A temporary password was computer generated for each member when the database was populated from the old roster. To get your password simply fill in your call-sign and click the “Get Password” button. The website will generate an email with your password , sending it to the email address in the database (which came from the old roster). It should arrive almost immediately.

What's that you say, it didn't arrive? If you can't get your password via email it probably means your email address was out of date on the roster. In that case you will need to contact the treasurer or the webmaster to get access.

Now where were we... oh yeah, the Roster. The Roster page has a place to enter “search” information. You can enter a call-sign, a name, or even partial call-sign or name. You can also select to sort by last name or call-sign. There is also a button to download the complete list as a tab delimited file suitable for a table or spreadsheet. But for now just click the Search button, or the View Entire Roster button. You will see the results on the screen.

Now, there is an important thing to note about this roster – *there ain't no stinking roster!* It's only a “virtual roster”. You will see a screen that looks like a roster, and the page title even says it's a roster – but it's actually a dynamic screen that was built from the database when you clicked the mouse button. The requested information was read from the Member Profiles database and displayed on your screen. This “roster” only exists on your screen. And it only displays the information you searched for.

Now I know everyone will look at the roster page first – but please don't leave without visiting the Member Profile page. That page will show you everything in the database about YOU. Make sure it is accurate including your phone number and email address – each of which can optionally be marked as “unlisted” so that they don't show up on the roster page. Remember – this information is only available to RARS members and can not be seen without logging in to the website. If you mark your contact information as unlisted they won't show up on the roster page. Only the treasurer and webmaster will have access to them.

The bottom half of the Member Profile screen shows additional information that is not included on the roster page. Please verify your ARRL membership status and other

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information so it is available to the club officers to help them determine things like member interest for planning meeting programs, and who we need to notify of upcoming public service events, or who we can depend on for SKYWARN, ARES, and other functions.

Next stop - Classified Ads. Members can login and post ads. Non members can not post classified ads, but they can see the ads posted by our members. Once you have posted a classified ad it will be visible for 30 days. During that time you can go back and edit your ad by clicking a link on the main classified ads page. When you click the edit button you will see a list of the ads you created sorted by their expiration date. You will notice that the ads show up on the list for some time after they expire. This allows you to go in and copy the information from your old expired ad and paste it into a new ad.

Your webmaster would like your suggestions for the RARS website.

73,
K4HM - Hank

New EchoLink Node

Announcement by Bob German KB4RGC

A new EchoLink node with simplex link in SE Raleigh is available. I recently set up an EL simplex link at my QTH. It is open for use by any interested ham and allows connecting to other repeaters from all over the country or actually from all over the world. The link can be heard in most of SE Raleigh, and I even had one or two people in Cary use it.

The simplex link is on 146.490 and has a cw id every 10 minutes – if you hear the id you are in business! If you are interested in knowing more about Echolink and its use, contact me on the RARS 64 repeater or give me a call at 919-803-0375 and I can get you started.

Best 73 de Bob – KB4RGC



Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

Worldwide Friendship • W4DW/W4RNC • Raleigh, NC • An ARRL Special Service Club
146.64 • 145.13 (82.5) • 444.525 (82.5)



Ham Radio Class

Have you ever had an interest in amateur radio? Want to talk to folks around the world? Want to assist with communications during an emergency? Want to help with public service events? Like to talk and make new friends? Then ham radio may be for you!

The **Raleigh Amateur Radio Society** is sponsoring a class this Fall to assist interested folks in getting their **Technician Class License** (entry level). This 2-part class will prepare participants for the FCC exam which will be administered at the end of the last class session. **The class is open to the public.** Details follow:

Dates: Saturdays

Nov. 6, 2010 8:00 am – 12:30 pm

Nov. 20, 2010 8:00 am – noon; Exam at 1:00 pm

Places: First Alliance Church (November 6, 2010)

4400 Buffaloe Road

Raleigh, NC

Glen Royal Baptist Church (November 20, 2010)

731 Elizabeth Aveune

Wake Forest, NC

Instructor: Mike Murphy WA4BPJ, Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

Cost: \$25.00 for the class (includes manual) and \$15.00 for the exam fee

To learn more about ham radio, please visit the following website:

www.arrl.org.

All participation is by pre-registration. **To register for this class, please contact RARS Education Director Virginia Enzor NC4VA at nc4va@nc.rr.com or (919) 469-8555 by Wednesday, Nov 3, 2010.**

She will be happy to answer any questions you have about the class, licensing, or exam session. If you wish to receive your manual prior to the class, please email Virginia to see what arrangements can be made.

Amateur Radio and Congressman David Price

**Article by Bob Conder K4RLC,
North Carolina ARRL State Government Liaison**

In August, I met with Congressman David Price to discuss House Bill 2160, the Amateur Radio Enhancement Act of 2009. This bill would direct Homeland Security to study the usefulness of amateur radio during emergencies and disasters.

Congressman Price acknowledged his appreciation for the role of amateur radio after disasters, especially the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and agreed to become a co-sponsor of HR 2160. Congressman Price is also the chair of the subcommittee on Homeland Security.



Above: Congressman David Price and Bob Conder K4RLC.

Congressman Price became the 41st Congressman to sign on to the ham radio bill.

September 21, 2010 RARS Board Meeting Minutes

**Minutes by Charlie Swindell WB4DCM,
RARS Secretary**

Present: Don Downs WA4AVU, Justin Pinnix AJ4MJ, Selene Montgomery KG4RMT, Hank Montgomery K4HM, Chuck Littlewood K4HF, Karl Bowman W4CHX, John Snellen AI4RT, Gary Pearce KN4AQ, Greg Seamster KE4PAX, Virginia Enzor NC4VA, Ken McEwen KI4OTO, and Charles Swindell WB4DCM.

Vistors were Austin Page AJ4VK and Jack Foster N6UYB.

Apologies: Courtney KI4HOS

1. Call to order (Karl W4CHX): The meeting was called to order at 7:02PM.
2. Approval of minutes (Karl W4CHX and Charlie WB4DCM): The minutes of the August 17, 2010 meeting of the RARS Board were approved as written.
3. Vice President's report (Justin AJ4MJ): The donations for snacks have been approximately what RARS has expended. The October program will be the auction. Cliff W4FT will be the auctioneer. After discussion, it was agreed that check-in of sale items will begin at 6:30 PM with the meeting and snacks at 7:00 PM.
4. Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): RARS now has 241 members. Fifty previous members have not paid their dues from last year. Currently, our bank charges \$2 per month to provide photo copies of the checks we write. After some discussion, it was decided that after we do the audit, we will decide if the charge is warranted.
5. Secretary' report (Charlie WB4DCM): No report.
6. Committee reports:
 - a. Public Service Director (John AI4RT): The New Bern event was a good event with about 25 hams helping out. We have some more events in the near future: Light up Raleigh, Light up Durham, City of Oaks Marathon (11-7-10), and Making Room for Turkey (11-21-10). President Karl inquired as to the status of the APRS equipment. One unit is checked out and the other two are eagerly awaiting someone to use them. They will probably be needed for the City of Oaks Marathon.

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- b. Public Information Officer (Gary KN4AQ): No report.
- c. Education Director (Virginia NC4VA): The Technician Class will be held on November 6th and 20th. The General Class will have to be scheduled for some time after January 1st. There will be three test sessions in November.
- d. Field Day Chair (Mike WA4BPJ): No report.
- e. FM Repeater Chair (Gary KN4AQ): Jack N6UYB reported that he will power wash and clean the exterior of the Bayleaf repeater site in preparation to painting.
- f. RARSFest Chair (John AI4RT): The first 2011 RARSFest meeting will be held on Monday, September 27th at the TRRS at 7:00PM. There will be an October meeting but no November or December meetings. He visited the fairgrounds to make some measurements for preliminary planning.
- g. Exciter Chair (Courtney KI4HOS): No report.
- h. Hospitality Chair (Mary Jo K4MJL): No report.
- i. Net Manager (Mary KG4OQA): No report.
- j. ARRL Liaison (Chuck K4HF): No report.
- k. At-Large Director (Don WA4AUV): No comment.
- l. AT-Large Director (Ken KI4OTO): No comment.
- m. At-Large Director (Steve KJ4BX): No comment.
- n. W4DW/W4RNC Trustee (Jeff AC4ZO): No report.
- o. RARSVE Coordinators (Joe WA4GIR and Liz KO4CK): No report.
- p. RARS Webmaster (Hank K4HM): Hank is working on the membership profiles. RARSFest has a data base from ticket stubs that is being compared to current licensing addresses for use on the RARSFest 2011 mailout

7. Old Business:

- a. Audit of RARS books: This still needs to be completed. The committee members will meet following the Board meeting and set a date.
- b. Nominating Committee: Chuck K4HF indicates that the Nominating Committee has begun work on the list of officers for the December election. Those officers present that have not responded should do so by the end of the meeting.

8. New Business:

- a. Antenna Assistance: RARS has received several requests from hams for assistance on antenna projects. The issue is how much responsibility should RARS as a club on such projects. After much discussion, it was basically decided that RARS as a club would not provide direct assistance but would simply be use a conduit to its members that may be willing to help.

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- b. Publishing of Minutes: The issue was raised about the delay in publishing the Exciter and thus the minutes. There was some discussion about the number of times that has occurred. Hank suggested that the minutes could be on the Members Only page and be published independently of the Exciter. After further discussion, it decided to continue as is.
 - c. RARS list: The question has come up as to who has access to the RARS list. It is for members only
9. Board Member's Comments:
- a. Greg KE4PAX advised that TRRS is having a fund raiser. A motion was made by Charlie WB4DCM that RARS support the fund raiser and purchase one ticket (\$75). The motion was seconded by Selene KG4RMT. After some discussion, the motion was approved as made.
 - b. Selene KG4RMT advised that she and Hank K4HM will not be at the Board meeting in October. She suggested that plans need to be made as to our December entertainment.
 - c. Gary KN4AQ wants to use one of the APRS units this weekend
10. Adjournment (Karl W4CHX): The meeting was adjourned at 8:39PM.
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October 5, 2010 RARS Meeting Minutes

Minutes by Charlie Swindell WB4DCM,
RARS Secretary

- 1) Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:28 PM by Karl W4CHX.
- 2) Approval of minutes: The Minutes of the RARS General Membership meetings on August 3, 2010 and September 7, 2010 were approved as written.
- 3) Vice President's report (Justin AJ4MJ): No report.
- 4) Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): We now have 243 members. That includes 34 that are either new or non-renewals in 09/10.
- 5) Announcements (Karl W4CHX):
 - a) RARS Dinner: Is the second Tuesday of each month (Oct. 12), 6:30 PM, Golden Corral, 2909 Millbrook Road (at the corner of Capital Blvd and Millbrook

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Road), monitor the 146.64 repeater on Tuesday (10/12) for any update information.

b) RARS Board Meeting: Is the third Tuesday (Oct. 19), 7:00 PM, Triangle Radio Reading Service, 211 E. Six Forks Road, Suite 103; and RARS member is welcome to attend. For more information, contact any RARS officer.

c) After meeting gathering: Depending on the time that the auction is complete: Applebee's, Six Forks and Wake Forest Roads (by the Costco).

d) Upcoming hamfests: Forsyth ARC Hamfest, Pfafftown, NC (Oct. 9); Maysville Hamfest Association, Maysville, NC (Oct. 10); please see the Exciter or the ARRL website for further information.

e) Guests: The following guests were recognized: Alan KR4JB, William AK4BL (also a new member), Sarah KJ4WZD (not present, but a new member and 9 years old!), Dale W4JCK, Mike AB4CH, Larry WD4LEW, Mike KS4RW, Chris Lamers (no call), and Don W3FPR.

6) Nominations Committee report (Chuck K4HF): The Nominations Committee recommends the following: for two year terms: Vice President C J Orr, KJ4OBQ and Treasurer Greg Seamster, KE4PAX. For Board members for one year: Public Service Director John Snellen, AI4RT; Public Information Officer Gary Pearce, KN4AQ; RARS 2011 Hamfest Chair John Snellen, AI4RT; RARS Exciter Editor Courtney Enzor, KI4HOS; RARS Net Manager Mary Holtschneider, KG4OQA; At-Large Director Don Downs, WA4AVU; At-Large Director Steve Ferrarini, KJ4BX; At-Large Director Ken McEwen, KI4OTO; FM Repeater Chair Gary Pearce, KN4AQ; W4DW, W4RNC Trustee Jeff Wittich, AC4ZO; ARRL Liaison Chuck Littlewood, K4HF; Education Director Virginia Enzor, NC4VA; and RARS Web Master Hank Montgomery, K4HM. For Committee Chairpersons: RARS Hospitality Chair Mary Jo Littlewood, K4MJL; RARS Volunteer Exam Coordinators Liz and Joe White, KO4CK and WA4GIR; and RARS 2011 Field Day Chair Bob Starkenberg, W4TTX. At the November meeting, nominations will be open for nominations from the floor. Then we will vote. Those elected will be installed at the December meeting.

7) Reports from RARS Board members and others:

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- a) Education Director Virginia NC4VA reported that there will be a Technician Class on November 6 and 20 from 8:00 AM until 12:0 PM. The exam will be given on the 20 following the class. Cost is \$25 for the class and that includes the manual. The exam is \$15. Preregistration is required.
 - b) President Karl W4CHX advised that the JOTA will be in Apex on October 16 and volunteers are needed. Please contact Karl W4CHX.
- 8) Any other business: There was none.
- 9) Program: The 2010 RARS Auction began at 7:50 and concluded at 9:55. There were 55 items auctioned off. The best price item was a frequency counter for \$200. Our thanks to Cliff W4FT for being the auctioneer.
- 10) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 immediately following the auction.

RARS Classifieds

Looking to add a new radio to your shack? Have an antenna for sale? Browse the RARS classifieds for new and used radio equipment at <http://rars.org/classifieds.php>.

RARS members are welcome to post notices about equipment they are selling. Posts last for 30 days and are editable at any time.

Using our classifieds is a great way for buyers to search for available items and for sellers to reach a local, targeted audience.



Local Amateur Radio Nets

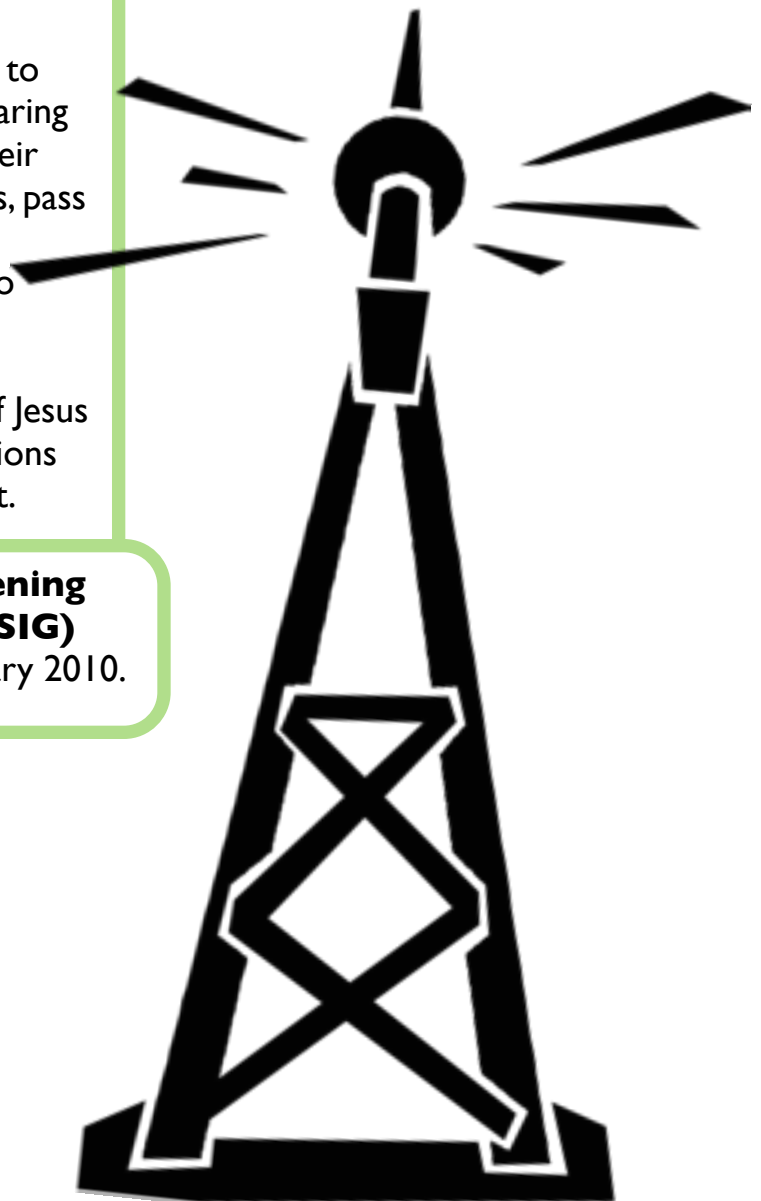
The **RARS Technical & Trader's Net** is held on Saturday evenings on the 146.640 at 8:30 PM.

Apex Emergency Response Communications Net

This net meets weekly each Sunday evening @ 9 PM on the 146.640 repeater. The purpose of the net is to assist ham radio operators in preparing to respond to emergencies, test their equipment, improve operating skills, pass traffic, and to provide those with a common interest an opportunity to meet. The Apex ERC Net provides amateur radio emergency communications for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. All stations are invited to participate in this net.

FYI: The **Tarheel Shortwave Listening (SWL) Special Interest Group (SIG) Net** has been discontinued as of January 2010.

The **VOIP Hurricane Net** is held Sundays at 00:00 UTC on the 146.775 repeater with a tone of 88.5 (IRLP node 4260). For information about activation details, go to www.voipwx.net.



Local Amateur Radio Nets

Join us every evening at 8 PM on the 146.640 repeater for the **RARS Two-Meter Net**. You can give a ragchew, check in and out (this counts for our total numbers reported to the ARRL!), make announcements, and pass traffic. We also offer National Traffic System traffic training. All licensed stations are welcome to participate in the net as often as they can. This net is also a great way to learn about amateur radio if you are newly licensed!

Central Carolina SKYWARN

Please join us each Tuesday @ 9:15 PM on the 146.880 repeater for the CCS net. On each net there are announcements, check-ins by county, and often a program or training spot. Check us out at www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net.

The **PCTN (Piedmont Costal Traffic Net)** meets every night at 9 PM on the 146.880. The purpose of the net is to handle/pass NTS formal messages. Amateur stations are encouraged to check in and participate. The backup repeater is the 147.105 (PL tone 82.5).

The **Wake County ARES Net** meets Thursdays around 2115 on the 146.880 repeater. We provide discussion and training for the implementation and provision of emergency communications for our served agencies, such as the American Red Cross and the local and state Emergency Operations Center. Please join us. For more information, check out www.wakeares.org.

Please join us on the **Carolina 440 Net** every Monday night at 7:30 PM. This ragchew net utilizes the Carolina 440 UHF Link Repeater System. Comprised of the Raleigh, Down East, and Coastal Wilmington link systems, there are currently 19 repeaters on the system, covering 21,168 square miles. For a list of these repeaters, please visit www.carolina440.net.

**Looking for the latest in
public service opportunities?
Visit www.rars.org to find
out about upcoming events
and sign up.**

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's

EXCITER

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